## Local Government Mandate Statement Kentucky Legislative Research Commission 2019 Regular Session

**Part I: Measure Information** 

Bill Request #: 1081
Bill #: SB 104 GA
<b>Document ID</b> #:5169
Bill Subject/Title: An ACT relating to fire prevention.
Sponsor: Senator Robby Mills
Unit of Government: X City X County X Urban-County Unified Local
X Charter County X Consolidated Local X Government
Office(s) Impacted: Fire Departments
Requirement: X Mandatory Optional
Effect on  Powers & Duties: Modifies ExistingX Adds New Eliminates Existing

## Part II: Bill Provisions and the Estimated Fiscal Impact Relating to Local Government

SB 104 GA proposes restricting the use of Class B firefighting foam for training or testing purposes to testing facilities that have implemented best industry practices to prevent uncontrolled releases of Class B foam into the environment.

Firefighting foams serve a vital role in fire protection throughout the world. Class B firefighting foam has proven to be essential for the control of flammable liquid fire threats. These foams contain ingredients such as fluorosurfactants that can impact the environment. The primary concerns are toxicity, biodegradability, persistence, mobility, treatability in wastewater treatment plants, and nutrient loading. All of these are of concern when the end-use foam solutions reach natural or domestic water systems.

According to the Fire Fighting Foam Coalition, best practices include training with alternative foams that do not contain fluorosurfactants, training firefighters on the trade-off performance of substitute foams to the use of Class B foam in actual emergency

situations, and that training be conducted under conditions conducive to the collection of spent foam.

According to Kentucky League of Cities, very few fire departments train with Class B foam because of its expense and states that they expect **very little financial impact.** 

The Kentucky Fire Commission conducts 95 percent of all Volunteer Fire Department training in the State and they **do not use Class B foam.** 

The overall fiscal impact is determined to be minimal.

## Part III: Differences to Local Government Mandate Statement from Prior Versions

The LM statement to SB 104 GA is the same as the LM statement to SB 104 as introduced. No substitutes or amendments were adopted when the bill passed the Senate.

Data Source(s): LRS Staff, Kentucky League of Cities, KY Fire Commission, Firefighting

Foam Coalition: Best Practice Guidance for Use of Class B Fire Fighting

Foams

**Preparer:** Mark Offerman **Reviewer:** KHC **Date:** 2/14/19